

scraped to buy their first instrument—a banjo—a treasure they were afraid to reveal to their father, Glen. Fortunately for all of us, having received Glen Goins' approval of their fine purchase, the two sons soon embarked on a path that would take them to the heights of bluegrass renown.

Over the decades of their careers, the pair brought the sounds of a finely tuned string band to countless men and women throughout the world, who found delight in such tunes as "Mouse Tracks in the Bacon Grease." Likewise, gospel tunes as "I'll Fly Away" and "The Wayfarer Stranger" have touched many a heart and soul.

They played as part of the Lonesome Pine Fiddlers and the Clinch Mountain Boys, before going on their own to play as the Goins Brothers. But eventually Ray hung up his banjo and Melvin carried on, establishing the Windy Mountain Boys.

Over the years, Melvin's generosity, exemplified by the guidance and encouragement he gave so freely to younger musicians, earned him lifelong respect and gratitude. And despite his success, the once-dirt poor boy has never lost his sense of those basic values honed in the hills of his West Virginia home at the knee of his mother Pearl.

If it means keeping our feet firmly planted on Good Mother Earth and our head out of the clouds like Melvin Goins, then growing up "dirt poor" is a luxury more Americans should enjoy.

Melvin Goins life has spanned the days of the battery operated radio that provided the family's only entertainment to the age of the Internet, MP3 players, and iPods. Having spent the better part of his nearly 60 years on the road, performing live concerts at venues from the renowned to the unlikely, Melvin Goins now reaches his multitude of fans worldwide, in their own living rooms, through a virtual visit to YouTube.

Even in his 70's, Melvin continues a successful and busy musical career, remaining much in demand by all who enjoy a little pickin', singin' and a good story to boot.

That he has earned this continuous following throughout those decades of change is testament to the depth of Melvin's talent and the breadth of his musical appeal.

This Friday, I will join the people of Bramwell, West Virginia in celebrating "Melvin Goins Day." But today, I bring his extraordinary life and musical talent to the attention of the U.S. Congress and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Melvin Goins, an American treasure.

RECOGNIZING THE BOLTON AND MENK FIRM FOR THEIR INNOVATIVE DESIGN OF A NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bolton and Menk Firm for their innovative design of a new Wastewater Treatment Plant in the City of Buffalo, Minnesota. Their fresh ideas earned them a place of honor in the American Council of Engineering Companies 2009 Engineering Excellence Awards Competition.

This facility is the first of its kind in innovation and renewable resources for water treatment. The City of Buffalo, Minnesota asked for a state-of-the-art system and Bolton and Menk delivered. The facility provides a high quality treatment process and keeps the energy costs incredibly low to the city and its residents. By recycling and reusing, the wastewater treatment plant makes all biosolids disappear. Some of the biosolids are even reused in the community's road construction and repair. In the end, the City of Buffalo has one of the most eco-friendly and fiscally responsible wastewater treatment plants in America. In fact, estimated savings for the first year of operation are expected to exceed \$90,000 and \$500,000 in the next 20 years.

The 2009 Engineering Excellence Award has found a worthy recipient and I rise today to commend both Bolton and Menk for their innovation and attention to the needs of today's communities and the people of Buffalo, Minnesota for vision and a real commitment to excellence.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF PAUL SIDNEY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Paul Sidney, legendary radio personality and fixture of community life in Eastern Long Island for 45 years.

With his rapid patter and unpolished voice, Paul provided "local news of local interest" to generations of Long Islanders from the studios of WLNG radio in Sag Harbor. Joining the station in 1963 as programming director, he later became WLNG's vice-president, general manager and, eventually, president.

Paul was recognized as a pioneer in community radio when he was inducted into the New York State Broadcasters' Hall of Fame in 2007. One of his innovations at WLNG was his early embrace of on-location remote broadcasting. Local events from retail store openings to Easter Egg hunts could expect a visit from Paul in the station's mobile broadcasting bus, and anybody in attendance was eligible for an impromptu on-air interview.

Perhaps what endeared Paul most to his listeners was his dedication to keeping WLNG on the air during even the most severe hurricanes and blizzards, earning him the nickname "the master of disaster." With his commitment to keeping the community informed in trying times, Paul was part entertainer and part public servant.

Between shifts on-air, Paul would hold court from his favorite bench between the Sag Harbor Pharmacy and the Variety Store on Main Street, dispensing wisdom, talking baseball and maybe collecting a few anecdotes for a later broadcast. A lifelong bachelor, his listeners were both his friends and his family.

Madam Speaker, if being successful in life is loving your work, Paul Sidney was one of the most successful people I have ever known. That irrepressible voice has fallen silent, but Paul and his achievements over the years at WLNG will always be remembered.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JESSE SLONE FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jesse Slone showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Jesse Slone was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jesse Slone always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jesse Slone on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

ON THE PASSING OF ERNIE BARNES

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, today we mourn the loss of Ernie Barnes, an athlete, artist and North Carolina native.

As a child, Mr. Barnes would accompany his mother to work, where she oversaw a prominent attorney's household staff in a home where he was captivated by the extensive collection of art books available to him. It was the start of a lifelong love of art.

As a junior high school student, Mr. Barnes was overweight and introverted. He spent his time drawing and hiding from the taunting bullies. A sympathetic teacher helped steer him into a weightlifting program, which enabled him to excel in both football and track and field once he got to high school.

Because of segregation, he was unable to consider nearby University of North Carolina or Duke University, and instead attended my alma mater, North Carolina Central University—then known as North Carolina College—on a football scholarship and majored in art.

Mr. Barnes was drafted in by the Washington Redskins, who, upon discovering he was Black, traded him to the then-world champion Baltimore Colts. He later played offensive lineman for the San Diego Chargers and Denver Broncos.

While on the playing field, Mr. Barnes said he was studying the human form and developing an eye for capturing the drama of sports. Each week he would sketch the defensive lineman who would be across from him in that Sunday's game.

"The drawings would help me understand the man I would be facing," he said in an interview.

Mr. Barnes' work relied on elongation and distortion to create a sense of energy, power, grace, intensity, and fluidity. His art also features people with their closed eyes, reflecting his sense, as he once expressed it, "we are blind to one another's humanity."